

Shrewsbury Commission on Disabilities
Minutes, January 14, 2003

The meeting was convened at Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. In attendance were Chairman John Harris, Gail Sokolowski, Jerry Berrier, Town Manager Dan Morgado, and Emily Gerber. Joe Bellil was unable to attend due to a work commitment.

Gail moved and Emily seconded a motion to approve the minutes from our December meeting. The motion passed.

Town Liaison Report: Mr. Morgado reported on several issues as follows:

Access issues at Brick Schoolhouse; New plans have been drawn and distributed to all parties involved in approving the ramp and other access improvements. Dan said there seems to be general agreement at this point. Dan reviewed the plans with us. While the new plans better suit the requirements of the Historical Society, the church, and other involved parties, the new configuration will permit only one van-accessible HP space.

Gail moved and Emily seconded a motion to approve the new plans. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Dan said he has written to Trader Joes regarding access issues that were mentioned at our December meeting. He will write to Shaw's Supermarket regarding access problems related to snow removal. (John recently e-mailed all of us and included a photograph of the problem.)

Work Projects; Dan again explained to us that real estate developers are sometimes willing to perform work in lieu of providing residual parcels of land to the town. He suggested that we come up with a list. One project should be making the Dean Park bandstand accessible.

We need to get a Warrant Article to town officials requesting \$10,000.00 for access projects selected from the Nault Survey.

We have agreed to request that projects in Sections One through Five be addressed in the coming year.

Jerry made and Gail seconded a motion to request funding for all Priority One items in Sections One through Five of the Nault Report, all of which related to the Richard Carney Office Building. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

The projected cost is \$9800.00.

Gail will compose a list of the issues.

The Finance Committee will be meeting in early February.
John and Gail have agreed to represent us.

Dan left the meeting at this point.

Appointments: None

Announcements: John said a disability reception and event
will be held on March 12 at the State House in Boston.

Correspondence: We received a letter from Paula Brady
requesting our annual report by January 17.
We also received a letter of explanation from Mr. Morgado's
office regarding the new plans for the brick schoolhouse
ramp.

John listed businesses for which we have recently received
copies of license applications; he will send letters to
them. He said it is his understanding that when an
applicant comes to town hall to apply, he/she is given one
of our brochures.

John received correspondence from Mr. Morgado saying that
our budget will be "level funded" for this year.

TTY: We again discussed the need for a TTY in the
Disability Coordinator's office, and Jerry agreed to
investigate prices.

No phone calls have come in during the past month.

Publicity: Jerry is awaiting a response from fire chief
LaFlamme regarding our interest in hosting a program on
Emergency Preparedness.

E-mail: We have been informed that it's not possible to
automatically send e-mails addressed to our Commission to
all of us. They will continue to go to John and to Dan.

Access projects: We discussed possible projects to enhance
accessibility at town facilities.
Suggestions included:

The Dean Park bandstand
Audible pedestrian signals
Curb cuts
Portable ramps

Annual Report: Jerry has already submitted a draft. Gail will improve its format and make some suggested changes and then e-mail it to all of us for approval.

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 11.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 P.M.

Respectfully,

Jerry Berrier, Secretary